

CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE:

Public Benefits Program Grant - Low-Income Demographics Study - Salvation

Army (not to exceed \$5,000)

MEETING DATE:

November 3, 1999

PREPARED BY:

Electric Utility Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the City Council approve a Public Benefits Program grant, not to exceed \$5000, to the Salvation Army of Lodi for a low-income

household demographics study.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City of Lodi currently has a Residential Low-Income Discount Service electric rate ('Schedule ED'). The current rate provides a 10

percent discount on a customer's monthly electric utility bill, if certain

qualifications are met. Specifically, to be assigned to Schedule ED, a customer must receive Supplemental Security Income/Supplemental Security Payment (SSI/SSP) benefits.

The City of Lodi Electric Utility is now in the process of examining various options that would provide additional relief to low-income residents in our community. These options could include: expanding eligibility, a larger discount and/or a one-time relief payment to assist a customer during a particular time of the year.

In order to fully identify the number of qualifying families, the City of Lodi Electric Utility, in conjunction with the Salvation Army, is requesting that a low-income household demographics study be commissioned in the ensuing months. The Salvation Army of Lodi will conduct this survey, and then provide a detailed analysis of their findings, along with possible recommendations. The cost of this study is not to exceed \$5000, and would be paid for from the City of Lodi Public Benefits Program fund.

The City of Lodi Electric Utility respectfully recommends approval of this grant request as a qualifying component of the City of Lodi's Public Benefits Program.

FUNDING:

164604 - Public Benefits Program Fund (Category: Low-Income Customer Assistance)

FUNDING AVAILABLE:

Ruhy R. Faite for Vicky McAthie, Finance Director

> Alan N. Vallow Electric Utility Director

APPROVED:

H. Dixon Flynn - City Manager



CITY OF LODI

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PREPARED BY:	Rob Lechner, Manager of Customer Programs
ANV/RL/Ist	
C: City Attorney	
APPROVE	D: H. Dixon Flynn - City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 99-176

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC BENEFITS PROGRAM GRANT TO FUND LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS STUDY

WHEREAS, the State has mandated that beginning January 1, 1998, the City of Lodi is obligated to fund various programs through a Public Benefits Charge (PBC) based on a historical electric revenue requirement; and

WHEREAS, the requirement amounts to approximately \$1M per year that must be dedicated to qualifying programs such as energy efficiency. A further stipulation is that these efforts must be done on the customer's side of the meter in order to qualify; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lodi currently has a Residential Low-Income Discount Service electric rate ("Schedule ED"); and

WHEREAS, the current rate provides a ten percent (10%) discount on a customer's monthly electric utility bill, if certain qualifications are met, i.e. a customer must receive Supplemental Security Income/Supplemental Security Payment (SSI/SSP) benefits; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lodi Electric Utility is examining various options that would provide additional relief to low-income residents in our community by 1) expanding eligibility, 2) allowing larger discount and/or 3) allowing a one-time relief payment to assist a customer during a particular time of the year; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully identify the number of qualifying families, the City of Lodi Electric Utility, in conjunction with the Salvation Army, is requesting that a low-income household demographics study be commissioned in the ensuing months; and

WHEREAS, the Salvation Army of Lodi will conduct this survey, providing a detailed analysis of their findings along with possible recommendations at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00 which would be paid from the City of Lodi Public Benefits Program fund.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lodi City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to provide a Public Benefits Program grant in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 to fund the Low-Income Demographics Study to be performed by the Salvation Army.

Dated: November 3, 1999

I hereby certify that Resolution No. 99-176 was passed and adopted by the Lodi City Council in a regular meeting held November 3, 1999 by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – Hitchcock, Mann, Nakanishi and Land (Mayor)

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS - None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS - Pennino

99-176